

Cat Canyon Aquifer Exemption Talking Points

- Cat Canyon is an active oil field administered by the State of California, Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources' (DOGGR's) Coastal District; located east of Orcutt, in Santa Barbara County, CA. A proposal to expand the existing aquifer exemption (which was granted in 1972 as part of the authorization of DOGGR's Class II primacy) of two formations (the Monterey and Sisquoc Formations) was recently subject to public comment.
- The public comment period was announced by DOGGR on May 3, 2019 and closed on June 20, 2019. The public hearing was held on June 5; David Albright of EPA Region 9 participated.
- At last week's monthly meeting, DOGGR indicated to EPA that it had received over 2,000 public comments, and that review was underway.
- EPA does not yet have DOGGR's proposal regarding the expansion of the aquifer exemption and does not expect to receive a proposal until the state has completely reviewed and responded to all public comments. This process may take up to a year. We will be informed of the status at our regular monthly meetings.